

Cross & Jones

Introduction to

CRIMINAL LAW

Tenth Edition

Richard Card



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Tenth edition

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Preface

In the last edition of this book, I recorded the death of Mr Philip Asterley Jones. It is, indeed, sad that in the preface to this edition I must record the death of the other progenitor of this book, Professor Sir Rupert Cross. Sir Rupert was jointly responsible for the first seven editions of this book and all of them bore the clear stamp of his perception and felicity of expression; I can only hope that this edition does not fall too far short of his high standards.

As in the past, this continues to be essentially a first book on criminal law. I have had in mind the syllabuses for degree courses, for Common Professional Examination courses and for other courses for professional examinations. Most of the work is devoted to the substantive criminal law of England and Wales, but chapters 20–24 provide an outline of the court system and procedure to the extent that is required to understand the substantive law. Changes in the substantive law have resulted in this edition being longer than its predecessor. The greatest expansion has been in the chapter on criminal liability (necessitated, in particular, by the decisions in *Caldwell* and in *Lawrence*) and in the chapters on offences against property.

I wish to thank my wife for the many hours which she spent in assisting in the preparation of the manuscript and in reading the proofs. I also wish to thank my colleagues, Mr Phil Huxley and Mr Michael O'Connell, who have between them read the whole work, for their constructive comments. For the imperfections which remain in spite of this help, I am solely responsible. Finally, I thank the publishers for compiling the tables of cases and statutes and the index.

I have tried to summarise and explain the law as it was on 1 November 1983, although I have been able to insert in proof one or two major changes up to 1 March 1984. Unfortunately, the Police and Criminal Evidence Bill was still before Parliament at that date, but I have made some reference to it at appropriate points.

March 1984

Richard Card

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